WHAT IS CLAIMED ARE:

1. In a therapeutic composition comprising a BPI protein product and a stabilizing polyoxypropylene-poloxyethylene block copolymer (poloxamer) surfactant, the improved composition comprising a bactericidal-activity-enhancing poloxamer surfactant.

- 2. The therapeutic composition of claim 1 further comprising EDTA.
- 3. The improved composition of claim 1 wherein the bactericidal-activity-enhancing poloxamer surfactant is selected from the group consisting of poloxamer 333, poloxamer 334, poloxamer 335, and poloxamer 403.
- 4. The therapeutic composition of claim 3 further comprising EDTA.
- 5. In a method for treating a bacterial infection comprising administering a composition of BPI protein product and a stabilizing polyoxypropylene-polyoxyethylene block copolymer (poloxamer) surfactant, the improvement comprising administering a therapeutic composition of BPI protein product and bactericidal-activity-enhancing poloxamer surfactant.
- 6. The improved method of claim 5 wherein the therapeutic composition further comprises EDTA.
- 7. The improved method of claim 5 wherein the bactericidal-activity-enhancing poloxamer surfactant is selected from the group consisting of poloxamer 333, poloxamer 334, poloxamer 335, and poloxamer 403.

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- 8. The improved method of claim 5 further comprising administering an antibiotic.
- 9. A composition for inhibiting bacterial and fungal growth comprising a BPI protein product and a bacterial and fungal growth-inhibiting enhancing poloxamer surfactant.
 - 10. The composition of claim 9 further comprising EDTA.
- 11. The composition of claim 9 wherein the bacterial and fungal growth-inhibiting enhancing poloxamer surfactant is selected from the group consisting of poloxamer 333 poloxamer 334, poloxamer 335, and poloxamer 403.
- 12. A method for inhibiting bacterial and fungal growth comprising treating the bacteria or fungus with a composition of a BPI protein product and a bacterial and fungal growth-inhibiting enhancing poloxamer surfactant.
- 13. The method of claim 12 wherein the composition further comprises EDTA.
- 14. The method of claim 12 wherein the bacterial and fungal growth-inhibiting enhancing poloxamer surfactant is selected from the group consisting of poloxamer 333, poloxamer 334, poloxamer 335, and poloxamer 403.